

Serial No.: 10/773,603
Inventor(s): Wenstrup et al.

U.S. PTO Customer No. 25280
Case No.: 5748

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A moldable heat shield comprising a nonwoven composite of a core layer and outer shell layers adjoining the core layer, the core layer having entangled staple core fibers, the entangled core fibers comprising a blend of thermoplastic fibers and lower melting thermoplastic fibers, and the shell layers having entangled shell fibers, the entangled shell fibers comprising a blend of partially oxidized polyacrylonitrile staple fibers and thermoplastic staple fibers.
2. (Previously presented) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 1, wherein the core layer has an entanglement zone adjacent to the shell layers, within which shell fibers from the shell are entangled with core fibers from the core.
3. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic staple fibers of the shell comprise polyester staple fibers.
4. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 1, wherein the core fibers comprise polyester staple fibers.
5. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 1, wherein the low melt core fibers comprise low melt polyester staple fibers.
6. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 1, wherein the core fibers comprise hollow-fill fibers.
7. (Original) A moldable heat shield comprising a nonwoven composite of a core layer and outer shell layers adjoining the core layer, the core layer having entangled staple core fibers, the entangled core fibers comprising a blend of thermoplastic fibers and lower melting thermoplastic fibers, and the shell layers having entangled shell fibers, the entangled shell fibers comprising a blend of partially oxidized polyacrylonitrile staple fibers, thermoplastic staple fibers, and a lower melting thermoplastic staple fibers.
8. (Previously presented) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 7, wherein the core layer has an entanglement zone adjacent to the shell layers, within which shell fibers from the shell are entangled with core fibers from the core.

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9. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 7, wherein the thermoplastic staple fibers of the shell comprise polyester staple fibers.
10. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 7, wherein the low melt thermoplastic staple fibers of the shell comprise low melt polyester staple fibers.
11. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 7, wherein the core fibers comprise polyester staple fibers.
12. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 7, wherein the low melt core fibers comprise low melt polyester staple fibers.
13. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 7, wherein the core fibers comprise hollow-fill fibers.
14. (Original) The moldable heat shield according to Claim 7, wherein the outer shell layers have an outer surface of fused shell fibers.

15-20. (Cancelled)